

NEW SOVIET ARMS THREAT TO THE WEST

NOW THE REDS HAVE A 'NATO'

Plans Ready, They Say TO GO INTO OPERATION IF PARIS PACTS RATIFIED

London, Mar. 21.

The Soviet Union announced tonight that it had reached "complete unanimity of views" with its satellites on the formation of a unified military command similar to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

A Moscow Radio broadcast monitored in London quoted a Soviet Foreign Office statement as saying discussions between the Soviet Union and the seven satellite nations who attended the Moscow "conference on European security" last winter had reached "complete unanimity" on the principle of a treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual aid and "the organisation of a unified command of the States."

The Communists warned the West last Autumn, that if the Paris agreements rearming Western Germany as a member of the Western European Union were approved, the nations of the Soviet bloc would form themselves into a military alliance similar to NATO.

U.S. Senator Calls For Big Power Talks

Safety-first Stand By State Dept

Washington, Mar. 21.

The U.S. State Department said today it favoured a Big Power meeting with Russia provided there was some evidence agreement could be reached on such cold war issues as "the German and Austrian questions."

But Senator Walter George of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee urged President Eisenhower to take the lead in calling a heads-of-State conference without waiting for proof of Russia's good intentions. The White House replied to Senator George by referring reporters to previous public statements by President Eisenhower. The President has said he does not see how such a meeting could serve a useful purpose unless there is evidence of good faith by Russia.

Mr. Eisenhower has urged Russia to sign an Austrian peace treaty and agree to free elections on the unification of Germany. The State Department spokesman said Mr. Henry Stuydam, chief of the same two points in discussing the proposal of Senator George.

U.S. LEAD URGED

Senator George, top Democratic Congressional spokesman on foreign policy, called for a high-level conference as one "real hope of avoiding war" on a Sunday night TV show. He renewed the appeal today and urged Mr. Eisenhower to take the lead.

Senator George and the State Department agreed that the proposed meeting should not be held until after full ratification of the Paris agreements on German reunification. But he said the talks be held as soon as possible after that.

He said the President should confer with Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and the British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill. He said he did not think Communist China should be included in the talks "at this time" but he said France might take part. Dispatches from London and Paris said the British and

The Moscow broadcast said the treaty would come into force and the unified Command be created "in the event of the ratification of the Paris agreements, with the aim of ensuring the security of these States and in the interests of the maintenance of peace."

The announcement was seen by observers in London as yet another Soviet move aimed at delaying final ratification of the Paris treaties. They have already passed their major hurdles in Britain, France, Germany and Italy, the four nations principally concerned, but the French Upper House (Senate) has yet to approve them.

The Senate opens debate on the pact in Paris on Wednesday. It cannot reject them but it can suggest amendments which would send them back to the Chamber of Deputies for further reappraisal, thus delaying Germany's entry into the Western Union still further.

The Communists proposed their all-European conference last July but it was rejected by the West. The conference with only the eight Communist States of Europe and the Chinese "observers" participating, was held last autumn when the idea of an "Eastern NATO" was first mooted.

Marshal Grigori Zhukov, Soviet Defence Minister, was then named a likely candidate for the post of commander of such an organisation—United Press.

LONDON REACTION

The announcement of the Communist state decision to set up a joint military command is an 11th hour effort to influence French Senators to vote against the rearming of West Germany this week, diplomatic sources said tonight.

Officials say the establishment of a joint command will add nothing to the military effectiveness of the Communist bloc since the Eastern forces are already controlled by the Soviet Chief of Staff in Moscow—Reuter.

Sir Winston To Resign 'With Great Reluctance'

London, Mar. 21.

Sir Winston Churchill will resign from the premiership in early April but only with the greatest reluctance, according to Parliamentary quarters tonight.

This is because his mind is still occupied with the "prize" he seeks—the chance to help world peace through a talk with top Soviet leaders, these sources said.

They added that if he is now finally convinced the opportunity he sought is as remote as ever, he will carry with him into retirement a sense of frustration that will mar his release from the cares of office.

Politicians say he is keenly waiting to see whether the French upper house this week ratifies the London and Paris agreements for West German rearmament, thus clearing the way for a fresh initiative for top-level talks with Moscow.

\$50,000 Worth Of Jewellery Missing

A package of jewellery worth about \$50,000 which was being sent to Hongkong by air was found to be missing when a Cathay Pacific Airliner arrived at Kai Tak this morning.

The package containing precious stones was delivered and manifested at Singapore. The plane stopped at Penang on the way to Hongkong. Police are making enquiries.

Aruba May Return To Rumania

Helsinki, Mar. 21.

The owners of the Finnish tanker Aruba said tonight the vessel may have been ordered to return to Constantza, Rumania, instead of proceeding with its cargo of jet fuel to Communist China.

Mr. Gunar Danstrom of Helsinki's Re-Be Shipping Company said the return of the Aruba to Constantza, from where it set out earlier this month for China, was "one of the arrangements we have discussed in trying to solve the case."

But he refused to say whether or not Far Eastern Enterprises Ltd., the Hongkong company which has chartered the Aruba, had actually ordered her to turn about.

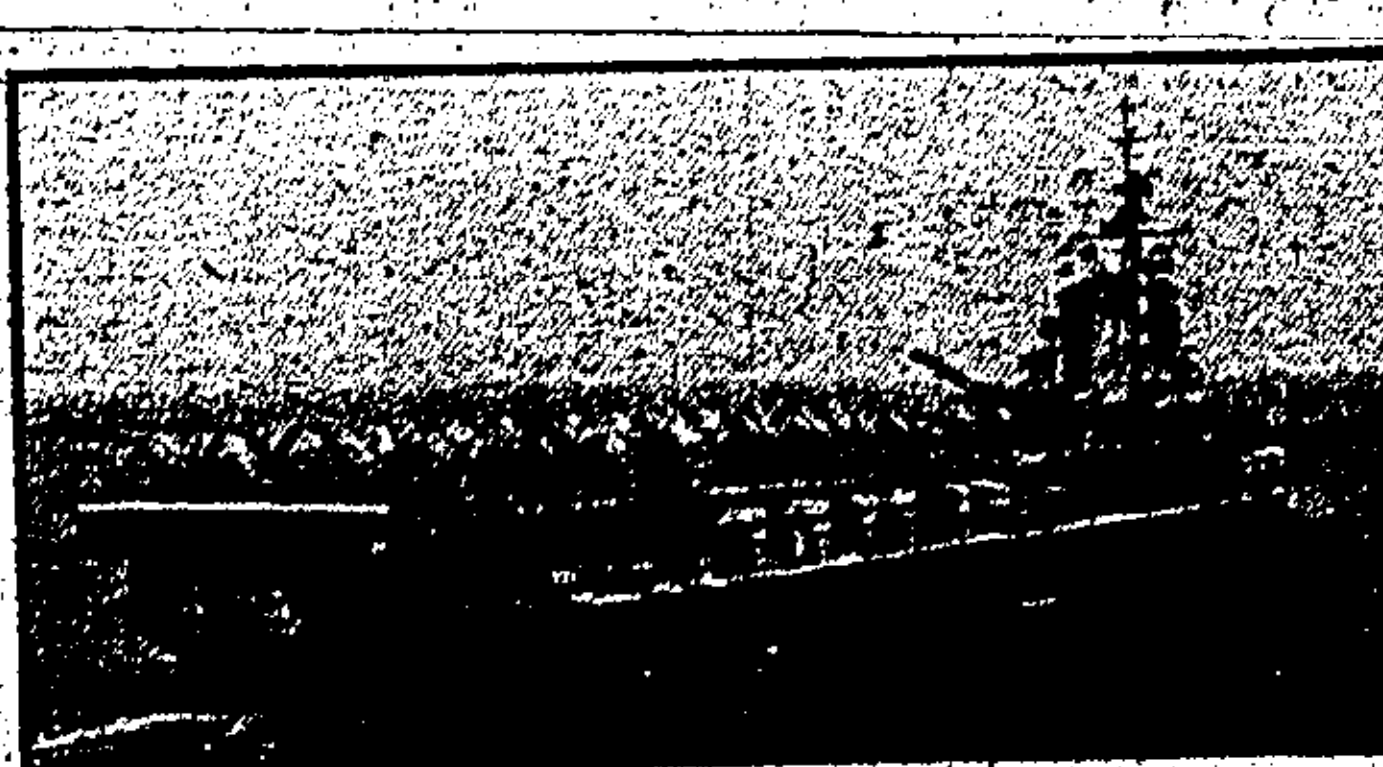
Earlier, it was reported by informal shipping sources that Communist China had refused to send another tanker to pick up the Aruba's jet fuel cargo—United Press.

Seven Killed In Air Crash

Paris, Mar. 21.

Seven persons were killed today when their plane crashed shortly after take-off from the French Air Force base at Cognac in the Department of Charente. The plane was a twin-engined Siebel machine used as a training aircraft by the French Air Force—France-Press.

Big U.S. Carrier Arrives



The USS Midway

The 45,000-ton American aircraft carrier Midway, flying the flag of Rear-Admiral R. W. Ruble, Commander of United States Carrier Division 3, arrived from northern waters this morning on a recreational visit.

Because of her huge size Midway is now anchored in Junk Bay and will stay there until she leaves next Tuesday.

The carrier, which joined the Seventh Fleet as a unit of Task Force 77 recently, was to have called at Singapore and Hongkong on her way north but altered her plans and steamed straight to the Formosa Straits to provide cover for the Nationalist evacuation of the Tachen Islands.

Midway carried a wartime strength of 3,170 enlisted men and 278 officers including air force personnel.

The carrier is 988 feet long (overall) and 130 feet wide. She has a draft of 32½ feet and a maximum speed of 33 knots. Her carrying capacity is 157 planes. Her armaments consist

NEW WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION FORMED BY GATT

Geneva, Mar. 21.

An agreement establishing a new international body—the Organisation for Trade Co-operation—was disclosed tonight in a communique issued by the 34 member nations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The communique gave the results of a conference here, which reviewed its seven-year-old rules for world fair trading. The conference, attended by representatives of all member governments, began here last November and was completed on March 7.

The communique said the agreement providing for the new organisation was being submitted to the governments concerned for approval.

The proposed organisation would have an Assembly, an Executive Committee and a Secretariat headed by a Director-General.

Its purpose would be to administer the General Agreement and to supersede the "present informal operational structure" in force since 1948.

It would be able to sponsor international trade negotiations and to serve as an inter-governmental forum for the discussion and solution of other questions relating to international trade.

The communique said the agreement setting up the organisation would come into force when it had been accepted by governments with territories accounting for 85 per cent of the total external trade of the territories of the 34 member Governments.

The communique also made these five points in reviewing the work of the contracting parties to GATT.

They drew up a declaration extending the life of the tariff bound by the General Agreement from July 1955 until December 31, 1957. The communique said this would give "stability of tariff levels for a large proportion of world trade."

The contracting parties "reaffirmed the basic objectives and obligations" of the Agreement and "adapted its provisions to meet" changed conditions. These basic objectives and obligations included the principle of non-discrimination in world trade and the general prohibition with certain exceptions, of quantitative import restrictions.

They made special provision to deal with the problems of under-developed countries, giving them special concessions to protect their industries with certain tariffs and their balance of payments through import restrictions. Approval was given for Britain to grant "special assistance" to her colonies in this regard. And member nations were urged to give capital help to under-developed countries generally.

The GATT signatories also introduced new provisions to "limit the harmful effects of export subsidies."

They adopted a resolution providing that member nations disposing of agricultural surpluses should do so in a manner which would "avoid unduly provoking disturbances on the world market" that would adversely affect other member countries. This resolution recommended that countries disposing of such surpluses should consult with the principal suppliers of these products and interested contracting parties before doing so.

Amendments to the existing agreement involved in the above changes would have to be approved by the member governments, but in the meantime the existing Agreement would remain in force.

'DYNAMIC FORCE'

Mr. Samuel C. Wagh, U.S. Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, said today it was the Administration's aim to present Congress with a bill setting up the Organisation for Trade Co-operation within the next two weeks.

Mr. Eric Wyndham White, Executive Secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, described the OTC as "a dynamic force" in international trade.

The fact that the terms of reference of this new organisation specifically lay down that it should sponsor international trade negotiations and serve as an inter-governmental forum for the discussion and solution of other questions relating to international trade makes it a dynamic force in the broadening development and strengthening of trade as a whole," he said—Reuter.

(See Also Back Page)

'Chinese Reds As Fanatical As Hitler'

Mr Dulles Warns Of Dangerous Tactics

New York, Mar. 21.

The U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, said today the tactics of the Chinese Communist leaders "may prove more dangerous and provocative of war than those of the Russian Soviets."

Mr. Dulles told the Advertising Club of New York that the "aggressive fanaticism of the Chinese Communist leaders had a certain parallel to that of Hitler."

Declaring that the Chinese Communist leaders were "dizzy with success" Mr. Dulles distinguished between their methods and those of the Russians.

"The temperament of the Chinese Communists is different and while in the long run, the Soviet method may prove more formidable, yet in the short run the Chinese Communist method may prove more dangerous and provocative of war."

NOT HOPELESS

Mr. Dulles said while he drew a sombre picture of the Chinese Communists "it is by no means a hopeless one."

He said: "With national unity under the calm and strong leadership of President Eisenhower, I remain hopeful that peace will yet prevail."

"I believe that there is still time to bring the Chinese Communists to a more sober mood. The fact is that their so-called successes have not in fact been due so much to their own strength as to their contributing causes. Among these have been the restraint and the patience of the free nations and their love of peace."

"These qualities should not be misinterpreted as manifestations of weakness and of fear," Reuter.

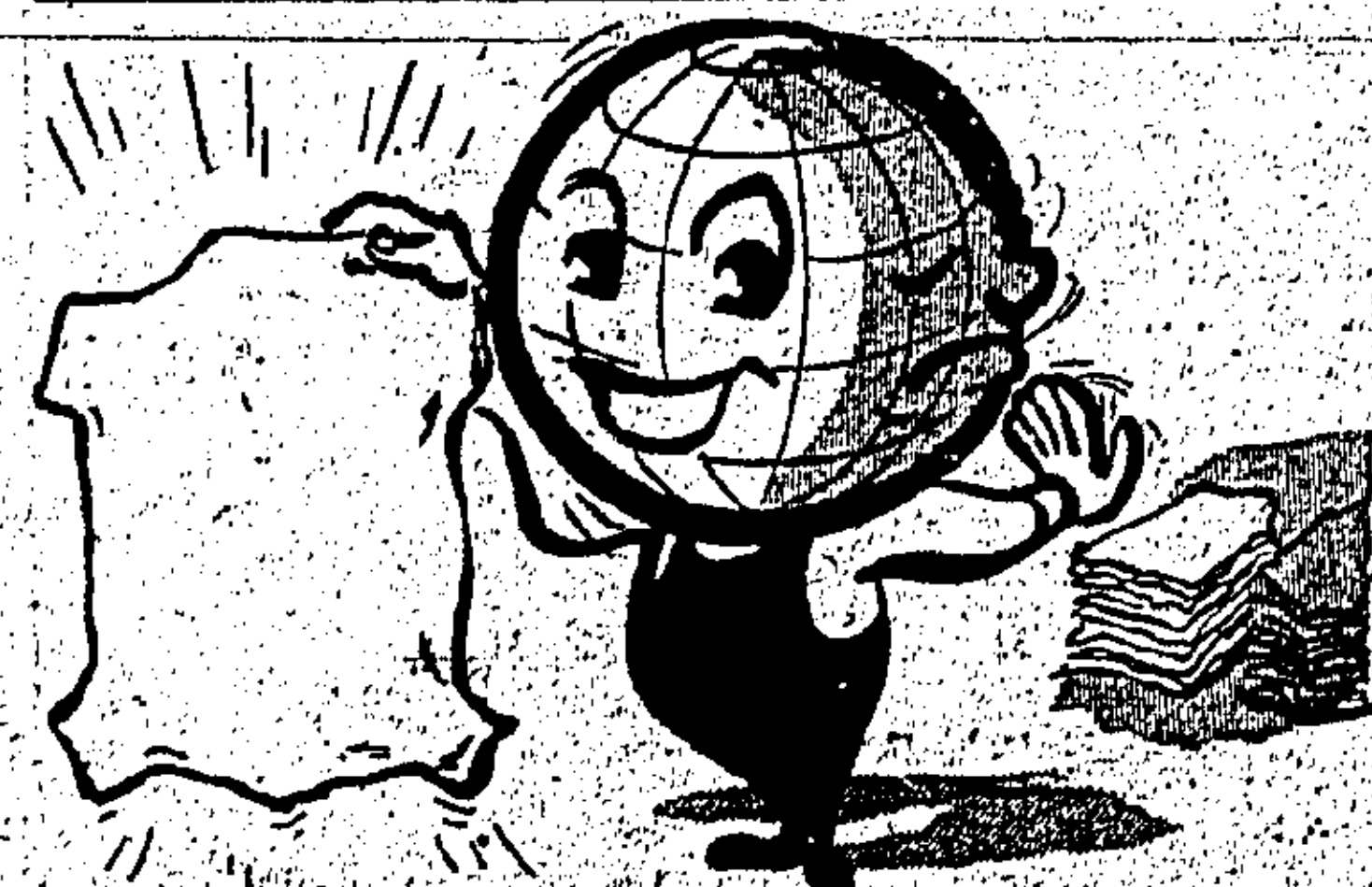
Lost Hair And Fiance After A 'Perm'

Rome, Mar. 21.

Ida Aspidistria, a 24-year-old resident of Grasse, is hopping mad because, in one fell swoop, she has lost her hair and her fiance.

Miss Aspidistria went to the hairdresser to have a "perm." Two days later she had not a single hair on her head. When she saw what happened, her fiance left her.

Now Ida is suing the hairdresser for heavy damages not only for her lost hair but also for the loss of her husband-to-be—France-Press.



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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Decision At Last?

LAST week it started as a discrete whisper, a mere murmur channelled rather than spoken behind guarding hands into authoritative ears. The grey respect of Whitehall and its warren of sober, conservative bureaucracy was a-tremble with excitement and anticipation. The sombre minions of Britain's deskdom sensed rather than knew... the portentous news that Fleet Street shattered with the clarion call of two-inch type on Saturday.

And then the world knew it: "The Old Man is retiring—definitely." When? Your guess is as good as ours—and it may ever be as good as Sir Winston's. No. 10 Downing Street, of course, had nothing to say except for the almost trite observation that the retirement of their present incumbent was inevitable, as inevitable as tomorrow's dawn. Nevertheless, Wednesday's sunrise is, we venture to suggest, a safer prediction than Sir Winston's retirement in April.

Twice before the Prime Minister has contemplated the step and the news has been spread abroad. Twice he has changed his mind to the joy of some and the dismay and consternation of others—impetuous youngsters impatient for the responsibilities of ministerial office—in his party.

THIS time, the political observers advance a plausible train of argument to justify their speculation: absence before the budget, a holiday in Sicily, and meetings with the Queen. It all adds up, they say, cynically perhaps, we suspect the possibility of a miscalculation and prefer to counsel guarded caution.

As inevitable as Sir Winston's retirement, however, is Sir Anthony's preferment when the time comes. In the subsequent reshuffle of the Cabinet, the Minister for Defence, Mr. Harold McMillan may succeed to the post of Foreign Secretary. Mr. Nutting, the young, good-looking Minister of State at the Foreign Office is a dark horse not to be discounted as the champion of the youthful and perhaps overzealous aspirants to rank and fame in the Tory Party.

Mr. Butler as the supremely able Chancellor may achieve a new status in the party ranking, but in view of the current anxiety over the country's economy, he is likely to continue as the pathfinder to the nation's wealth and prosperity.

U.S. Bomber Safe

The United States Air Force B-50 four engine bomber, which circled Hongkong for an hour at 1 a.m. this morning with engine trouble has returned safely to its base at Clark Field, Manila.

The plane dropped four flares near Kai Tak and landing flares were turned on along the strip, but the pilot was advised to turn back because he was unfamiliar with airport conditions.

The pilot attempted to land at Kai Tak because one of his four engines had failed but he continued his voyage and the plane arrived at Clark Field at 4:50 a.m. this morning.

KING'S * PRINCESS

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M. (1) at 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Added: LATEST PARAMOUNT NEWS

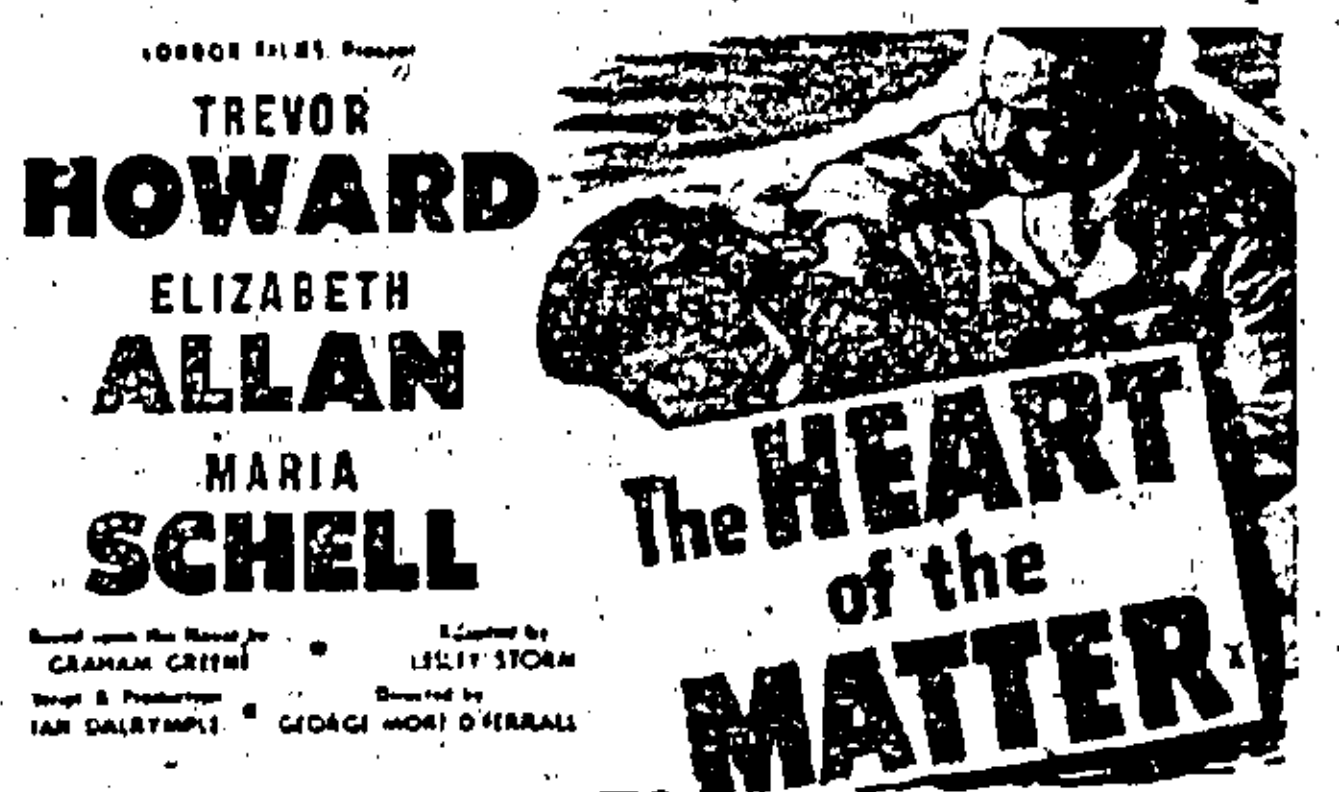
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DOE"

with Gary COOPER • Barbara STANWYCK

CAPITOL RITZ

— NEXT ATTRACTION —

Negev Suggestion Is
'Blackmail'
Says IsraelLONDON DIPLOMATIC
QUARTERS PUZZLED

Tel-Aviv, Mar. 21.

The Israeli Government tonight described as "blackmail" a suggestion yesterday by Major Salah Salem, Egyptian National Guidance Minister, that Egypt might be more ready to join a Western defence alliance if the Negev were detached from Israel and given to Jordan.

A Government spokesman commented: "No part of Israel's territory is at the disposal of anyone to serve as a quid pro quo for political or military arrangements of any kind."

He said Major Salem's statement was "another device of Egypt's war propaganda against Israel."

Whether Egypt does or does not join a Western defence alliance is entirely her own business. But if she does decide to join, it is idle for her to assume that she can exact blackmail at the expense of Israel's territorial integrity," he said.

MINIMUM PRICE

Diplomatic observers in London said that Arab control of the Negev now appeared to be Egypt's minimum price for full military co-operation with the West.

Major Salem's statement puzzled diplomatic quarters here today.

He appeared to be demanding that Israel surrender the Negev and at the same time calling for Arab unity against Israel.

He gave no hint of compensation to Israel for loss of the territory.

This led to some speculation here that Egypt might be thinking of the transfer of the Negev as part of a bigger deal in an Arab-Israeli peace settlement. But there was no information available to give substance to the suggestion.

A common Egyptian-Jordanian border would unite the Arab states from southern Turkey down to Suez, a grouping which the Western Powers would like to see incorporated in a Middle East defence organisation. Major Salem's statement might therefore have been intended to show the Western Powers that in attacking Iraq's pact with Turkey he was not ruling out altogether co-operation with them.

Diplomatic sources in London said Major Salem would find no

support here for the transfer of the Negev to Jordan as a step towards winning "Egypt's military association with the West." —China Mail Special & Reuter.

America's Power
Preventing
Russian Attack

Washington, Mar. 21.

General Alfred Gruenther, Allied Commander in Europe, said tonight that America's "devastating" air-atomic power should prevent any Russian attack on Western Europe for the next three to four years.

He also said that during this period West Germany's forces would be arming and European defence strategy would be "based upon the use of atomic weapons against an aggressor."

General Gruenther predicted in a speech before the Advising Council that France may complete ratification of the German armistice by the end of this week.

EQUIPMENT

He said West Germany may be equipped with 1,300 tactical aircraft, 12 army divisions and "small naval craft for Baltic Sea operations" within three to four years.

"After the German contribution is effective and if we can assume that atomic weapons will be used to repel an act of aggression," General Gruenther said, "We will have reasonably good assurance that we shall be able to defend Europe successfully."

Asked whether Europe would be in "mortal peril" during the next three to four years, General Gruenther said that offensive air power now had a great advantage over the defence. For example, he said, there is "the good defensive answer" to the American B-29 jet bomber, the "greatly superior" B-32 now coming from production lines.

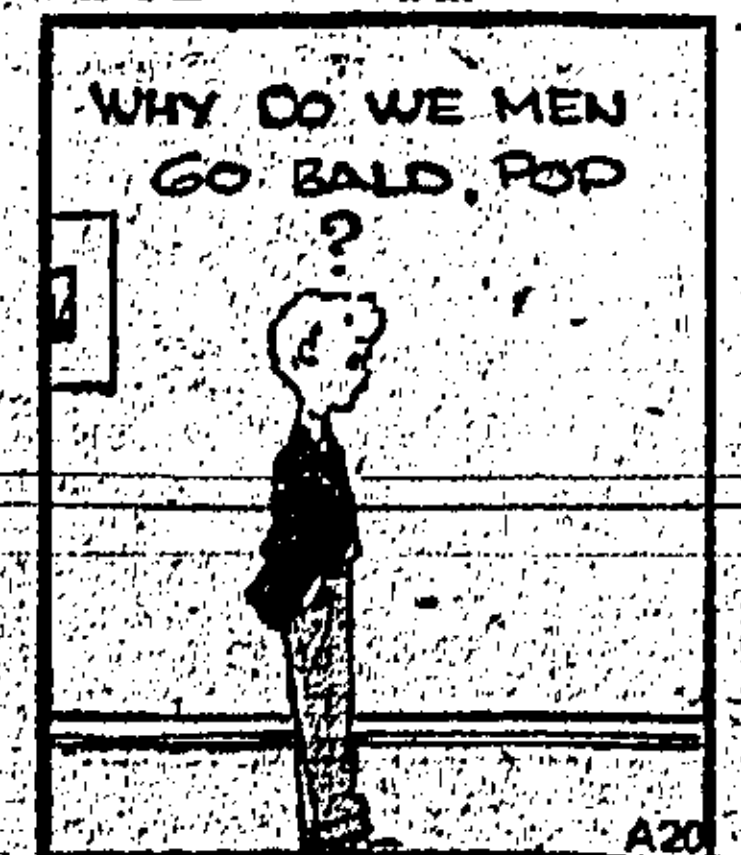
"All of this means that we have an overwhelming air retaliatory capacity in the event that war should break out today," said General Gruenther.

IN OUR FAVOUR

He expressed himself as "soberly optimistic" that there would be no World War III, declaring, "The tide is running in our favour in spite of our troubles."

General Gruenther said that West German rearmament was urgent so that Europe could be defended further to the East along the Iron Curtain that was now possible. —United Press.

POP



Crown Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands left the hospital of Utrecht University on Monday after having recovered from an operation for an acute appendicitis. Her father Prince Bernhard drove to the hospital to take his daughter home to the Palace of Soestdijk. Prince Bernhard and his daughter are pictured leaving the hospital. In the centre is Professor Dr J. F. Nubser who performed the operation. —Express Photo.

VIETMINH
PROTESTS

Hanoi, Mar. 21.

North Vietnam Radio reported today that Prince Souphanouvong, head of the Laotian Pathet Lao (who were allies of the Vietminh during the Indo-China war), has sent a letter to the International Armistice Control Commission protesting against "violations" of the armistice by Royal Laotian forces.

The protest was addressed to the President of the Armistice Commission, Dr J. N. Khosla (of India), the broadcast said. The Radio said that Prince Souphanouvong's message denounced "acts in violation of the Geneva agreements by Royal Government forces on Laotian territory, and notably those (violations) which occurred in the northern provinces of Phong Sai and Sam Neua, regroupment zones for Pathet Lao units." —France-Press.

Investigators Told
To Be More Careful

New York, Mar. 21.

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt today urged Congressional investigators to "examine the testimony of ex-Communists more carefully than they sometimes do."

"Anyone who became a Communist in adult life and remained so over a long period of years has been thoroughly indoctrinated and therefore, even unconsciously, might well conform to the ideas and teachings of the Communists," Mrs Roosevelt said in McCall's magazine.

EXAGGERATION
"Being strictly factual is not one of the things the Communists teach their followers. Also, repentance sometimes brings a desire for self-justification, which could lead to unintentional exaggeration and inaccuracy. All of these things are psychological and must, of course, be looked at carefully in every case. I think, therefore, that the

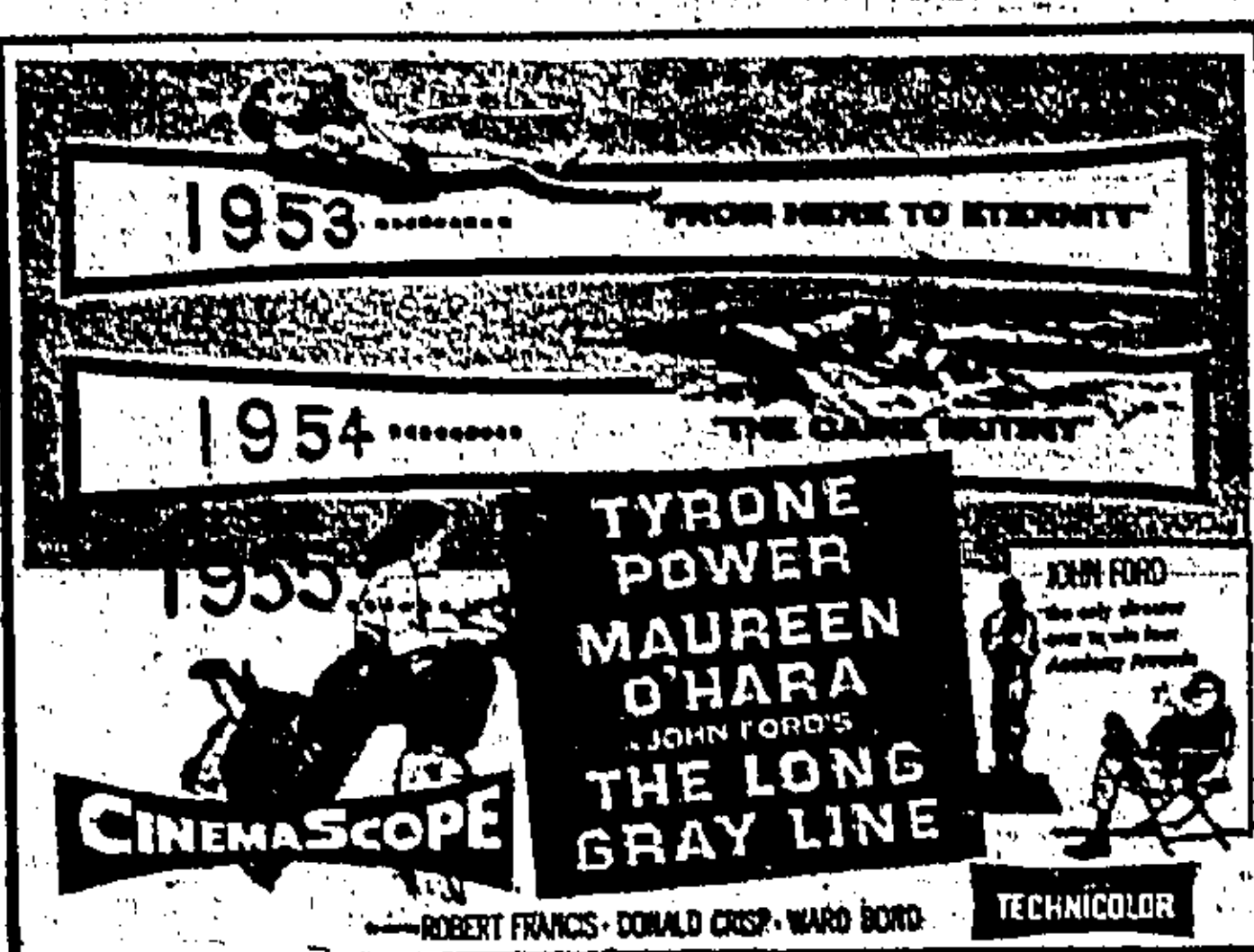
testimony of ex-Communists deserves more critical examination than one frequently sees in a Congressional investigation, where such testimony, often accepted as unquestionably true, is not always borne out by the facts."

Mrs Roosevelt also denied reports of a "deal" to produce a movie on the life of the late President. She said she probably would never make public "all the details" if such a movie is made, since she doesn't think it is anybody's business except the members of the family and those who made the agreement with us.

"I have only said I would be willing to consider a proposition should it be made," Mrs Roosevelt said. —United Press.

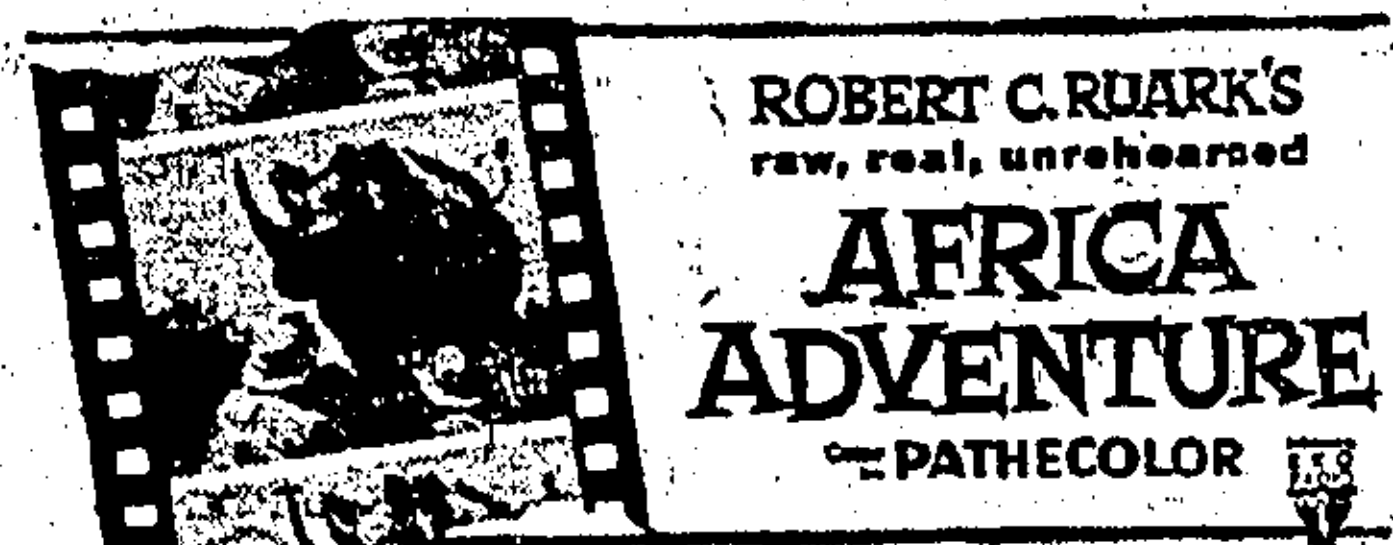
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TO-MORROW Columbia's New Shock Hit
"THE 49th MAN"

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ROXY ADDED: Walt Disney's Technicolor Cartoon "LONE CHIPMUNKS" and Comedy Shorts "PUNCHY PUNCHY".
BROADWAY ADDED: Walt Disney's Technicolor Cartoon "DONALD'S DIARY" and Comedy Shorts "POLO PHONY".

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TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



Triple Tie In Fanling Competition

A. D. Duffy/E. S. Russell, G. J. Mary/D. Galula and G. O. W. Stewart/L. Goldman tied for first place in a four-ball competition played over the Old Course at Fanling on Sunday with returns of four up. Messrs G. O. W. Stewart/L. Goldman being declared winners by virtue of their score of two up for the last six holes.

Cards showing three up against Bogey were returned by N. A. Brown/J. R. Leitch and W. N. Gray/R. G. L. Oliphant, two up being recorded by J. L. Macintyre/W. H. Paterson.

R. G. L. Oliphant won the week-end Stabford competition with a score of 35 points, D. R. Holmes being second with 34 and J. D. Clague was in third place with 31.

DEEP WATER BAY

A mixed Foursome Flag competition will be played over 18 holes at Deep Water Bay on Saturday April 2, from 2 p.m. onwards and incoming players are asked to send their names and the names of their partners to the Club office (Telephone 32340 and 23448) as early as possible or enter them on lists posted at Club Houses.

Fellow competitors may be privately arranged and in this case it will be necessary for the names of all four players to be given. Strokes allowed will be shown on the Starting list and flags should be placed where ball lies after making the last stroke. There will be several hidden prizes so it will be necessary for all pairs to take out cards and record actual number of strokes taken at each hole—no matter how many. Men's tees are being used and alternate strokes played throughout.

Presentation of prizes won during the Winter Season will take place after the close of the Flag competition.

MIXED FOURSOMES

The final of the Fanling mixed Foursomes was played on Saturday between Mr. & Mrs. W. N. Gray and Dr. & Mrs. J. B. Mackie and resulted in a win for Dr. & Mrs. Mackie by 1 up. The winners reached the final by victories over Miss J. Brown and Dr. J. Gray in the first round; Mrs. J. R. Leitch and W. D. Leighton in the second; Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Laroche in the third; Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Hough in the fourth and Mrs. Turnbull and N. A. Brown in the semi-final. Mr. & Mrs. Gray beating Mr. & Mrs. R. N. Lindeman in the first round; Mr. & Mrs. W. P. Birtwhistle in the second; Mr. & Mrs. F. D. Hunter in the third; Mr. & Mrs. R. M. T. Orr in the fourth round and Mr. & Mrs. S. S. Gordon in the semi-final.

CAPTAIN'S CUP

P. D. Sladden (69-18=net 71) has been declared the winner of the March Qualifier for the Captain's Cup. The attention of players in stroke competitions is drawn to the definition of a "marker" appearing in Rules of Golf. This definition reads—

"A 'marker' is a scorer in stroke play who is appointed by the Committee to record a competition score. He may be a fellow competitor."

HANDICAP REVISIONS

Recent handicap revisions are as follows (figures in parentheses show previous handicaps):

F/O A. Brown 1 (2); D. L. Anderson 3 (3); D. S. Robb 6 (7); Capt. J. Thornton 6 (6); W. N. Gray 7 (8); A. R. de Pinna 8 (9); W. Van Alst 8 (10); Maj. Monck-Mason 8 (10); Capt. C. Y. Yates 10 (11); 2/Lt. A. H. Beckford 10 (12); W. C. Falconer 12 (13); K. U. Dzong 12 (13); A. B. Coleman 12 (13); Capt. Browne 13 (-); E. D. Dwyer 14 (15); A. E. Elliott 14 (17); Maj. Russell 15 (13); J. B. Wilson 16 (18); P. D. Sladden 17 (18); K. Shibekusa 17 (18); J. W. Nichols 18 (19); Capt. A. E. Weatherall 18 (19); 2/Lt. Lyness 14 (-); Capt. Bailey 20 (-); Sq-Ldr. E. W. Brooks 20 (-); Air Cdr. R. C. Field 22 (-).

SHEK-O GOLF LADIES SECTION

The Par Bique Competition played at Shek-O last Thursday was won by Mrs. M. Neale with the very good score of 12 up. The next competition at Shek-O will be held on Thursday, April 28, instead of April 21, as scheduled and will be a bogey competition.

The ladies of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club have challenged the Shek-O ladies to a match to be played at Fanling on Friday, April 22. The match will be played on handicap. Will all those wishing to play please enter their names on the list which will be posted on the board at the Shek-O Country Club?

TAKE YOUR CUE FROM HORACE LINDRUM



The Thin Contact.

Gethin Puts Umberto Among The Winners

By THE SCOUT

Ken Gethin, who will celebrate his 39th birthday (for the fourth successive year!) shortly, has stamped his mark as a big-race jockey, with the right big-race temperament.

A first impression may leave you with an idea of a casual, almost cocky individual. Ken bounces as he walks. A wide, disarming grin, and a leaning for London social occasions, round off the picture.

That, however, is only the outer shell. Ken is first and always a workman. He recalls with pride that he won races on two horses which he looked after during his formative period as an apprentice to Stanley Wootton.

Basically, he belongs to the high-strung, nervous, worrying type.

INSTINCTIVE

This characteristic is revealed by the instinctive way in which he "feathers" the whip on his mounts—sometimes, even, when out clear in the lead.

Ken, a left-handed hitter, is a jockey who has been entrusted with some of recent racing's greatest gambles.

"I like to have the stick handy—just in case the horse needs a slap," he explained to me once. He added that the mere fact of rhythmic whipping—swinging evenly to keep his mount racing evenly.

He is an engagingly stern critic of his own efforts in the saddle. He can, at times, insist—out loud—that he has misjudged a finishing run, although such an error may not have been generally apparent.

He maintains a rigid regime. A home-made "sweat-ben" is his last resort for reducing weight.

"I much prefer running and other forms of exercise," he says simply. "Turkish baths leave me feeling lousy and low."

Golf is his favoured relaxation—"I play down to a fairly steady 9 handicap."

There are cups on the sideboard of his Epsom home too for boxing and snooker.

SNUFF INSTANT

During the last month he has cut out cigarette-smoking—he realised that he was up to 50 a day—and has substituted the occasional pinch of snuff. Riding arrangements for 1955 are the same as in previous years—father-in-law Peter Thrale, Harold Wallington, Willy Stephenson, and whatever other good rides come my way.

He lists Zabara, Pettition, and King of the Tudors the three most brilliant horses which he has ridden to date.

Ken is a smart form student and first rate at describing any race in which he has taken part. At winner-naming...not so hot.

His "good thing" record in his book consists of two last, one unplaced and Chantry for the 1953 Cesarewitch (an hour after the race was over).

For the record he hopes, and expects, to win on these three horses this coming season: Umberto ("the appears to have wintered extra well"), Solon Morn, and Faygala. Meanwhile, he is trying hard to reduce from 8st 7lb to the normal 8st 2lb of wire, whipcord, and tensed nervous energy called Gethin, K.

(London Express Service)

A Sigh Of Regret At The Cup Draw

By ARCHIE QUICK

A sigh went round the oak-panelled Council Room of the Football Association in London's West End when the draw for the semi-finals of the Cup was made. It was not a sigh of relief, but regret; regret that Manchester City and Sunderland had been drawn together.

They clash at Villa Park, but this was the match we all had hoped would be reserved for Wembley for it had the possibilities of a classic Final. However, the ingredients of a brilliant semi-final are there, and I must give my vote to Manchester City for I feel that they have it in them to win the trophy. Anyhow, I think the winners of this tie will eventually take the Cup, although Huddersfield are the favourites of many people.

At the time of writing, Huddersfield and Newcastle United had not settled their Sixth Round dispute, but surely whoever gets through should be able to account for gallant little York City. A year ago we were talking of Port Vale's chance to get to Wembley. Of course, they never reached the famous stadium, and despite York's great record of beating Blackpool, Spurs and Nottingham—two of them away from home they can hardly be expected to go further.

LAST FENCE

Writing blindly because of the fog to come I would say it looks like Manchester City versus Huddersfield for the last fence. But there still remains the possibility of a North-East Final—Tyneside Newcastle and Wearside Sunderland.

What I would have loved to see at Wembley though was the brains of the inimitable Len Shackleton pitted against the "Revie Plan" of a deep-lying roving centre forward. This plan, based on Don Revie's super-physical fitness to turn up in any spot on the field has stood City in good stead, has made them probable Cup-winners and should have clinched Revie—ex-Hull and Leicester—for an international "cap" against Scotland and an overseas tour. How his two former struggling clubs could do with him now!

Manchester manager Len McDowall was telling me at the Birmingham tie that Revie goes back to the Waine Road ground most afternoons for additional training and tactical talks.

There was a coincidence about the City-Birmingham tie. When the clubs last met in the Cup in 1946-47 season and Birmingham

Nominate YOUR Hongkong Footballer Of The Year

Members of the public are invited to nominate whom they consider to be Hongkong's Footballer of the Year for the current season.

It is a popularity poll organised by the China Mail, and nomination coupons will be received until the closing date to be announced later.

The two qualifications for nomination are:

- (1) Footballing prowess.
- (2) Sportsmanship on the field of play.

Nominations should be addressed to The Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

To The Editor, China Mail.

My nomination for Hongkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into regard his playing ability and his sportsmanship on the field of play is

of the Club.

(Signed)

Thin Contact Cutting

To play a ball with a "thin contact" is a stroke which I have seen many good players deliberately avoid—even though it meant forgoing a good follow-up position. I have often wondered about this, because the shot is not nearly as difficult as it appears to be.

Needless to say, it requires study and practice, but once you understand the stroke and can judge at a glance how fine the contact should be and the pace at which it should be played, you will be able to apply it to your game with confidence and appreciate its value.

I think the main reason why the shot so often fails for the average player is because the contact made is not thin enough. So, to begin with, place an object—ball and the white in a position calling for a really thin contact. Then, using your cue, put the object—ball over the middle left-hand pocket and the cue-ball roughly 12 inches from the bottom cushion and 24 inches from the left-hand side cushion.

Now play the cut to bring the cue-ball into the right-hand position—just near the blue spot; then play the position again with a fraction more strength to bring the cue-ball further down the table in the vicinity of the "D".

As you practise, you will see that the thinner the contact on the object-ball the farther the cue-ball will run afterwards. So if you are playing a thin cut at the top of the table for position around the black, a delicate shot will leave you well placed.

When the position demands a contact so fine that you might

miss, altogether, consider an alternative mode of play before attempting it. If there is no other course open to you, then play for safety unless you are sure the object-ball can enter a full open pocket.

Always remember you are playing for position. It is no use playing a thin cut or doing any of the advanced strokes, unless you fully understand them and can decide when they are practical propositions. To hit and hope for the best will mean that in nine cases out of ten you will leave your opponent nicely placed for victory.

In the photograph I am cutting a red ball into the top right-hand corner pocket. To make a success of this stroke, I take aim from the left edge of the white ball to the right edge of the red ball. Before actually playing I take a quick glance at the corner pocket as a way of checking that I am gauging the stroke correctly.

Bouncer is a character

It is always a treat to be shown round the Arundel stable by the Duchess of Norfolk and Willie Smyth. One cannot help becoming imbued with their enthusiasm. The stable will have two runners at Lindom. Smyth will not be there. He never spends a night away from the stables. He would not be happy. And he never takes a holiday.

by James Park

The Duchess has a "favourite." It is a two-year-old called BOUNCER, a half-brother by Frequentation to that good horse Sage.

Bred by the Duke of Norfolk, the colt has character and is also something of a character. He is a medium-sized brown colt, compact, strongly put together, deep through the withers and with slightly lop ears.

He has a wonderful temperament and gives the impression that he would be quite happy to fall asleep. I shall be interested to see how he wakes up on the racecourse.

BROWN COLT

There are two other first-season colts who strike me as being above the ordinary. One is the home-bred BUFFALO and the other COPPERSMITH, who belongs to Lady Irwin.

Bugalo is by Big Game out of Trouble. This brown colt, he is almost black—reminds me quite a lot in make and shape of his sire at the same age.

He is beautifully proportioned and still in the developing stage. What a grand-looking three-year-old he will make. He might find his form about Royal Ascot time.

Coppersmith is a colt who might be anything one day. He is a much bigger edition of his sire, Hyperion, and is a big slashing colt who will want a lot of time to finish.

Two outstanding fillies are SOIREE, HIGH DIVE and AMALTHEA.

A bonny filly of just the right size is High Dive and she looks something of a racing machine. I was impressed with the shapely outline of Amalthea, a home-bred daughter of Alycidon and Blue Angel. Amalthea is not so tall as her own sister, Ariadne, but the two-year-old will hold her own for looks in any company. To my eye there is not a better-looking filly in the yard.

Soiree is also home-bred and is by Chantrelle II out of Serocore, a half-sister to Festoon and Refreshed. A first foal and a very good one, Soiree, is a tall, well-made filly who looks like training on. She has the necessary scope and should be something more than a sprinter.

The other two-year-olds can be dealt with quickly. CAVALRY is a half-brother to Stokes, but is not a similar outsize type. He looks like coming early to hand.

MURAT is a tough-looking Beau Sabreur gelding who will be showing his paces before long. MR PEPPIER is a sharp gelding related to Hard Sauce.

Among the colts WORDS-WORTH and SQUARE DANCE stand for the best class.

Square Dance is the light fished type who looks as if he will not come to himself until he gets some sun on his back.

He is another Big Game colt out of a stoutly bred staying mare. This should be the testing year for Big Game stock bred on those lines. I think Square Dance will stay.

As a half-brother to Bitter Sweet it is thought BLUE LEGEND will stay. SIR FRANCIS is now a gelding, but looks as well as ever. He has only to pay attention to business and is now quiet and amenable.

SPRINTER

Another gelding, COMPUSSION, is the sprinting type. VAT 69, a huge gelding, whose hind legs will not please the critical, is remarkably active for his size. I have no doubt he will be placed to win.

The Airborne filly HOVERPLANE, will run in a maiden race at Lincoln to see whether there is any hope of her winning a race. She ought to stay a mile and a half.

The Arundel stable is always well managed, and the Duchess of Norfolk will have ample opportunity to display her skill in the placing of the horses. I am sure she will do as well as in the past.

(London Express Service)

HKCC TENNIS RESULTS

The results of the HKCC Tennis Tournaments played off at Chater Road yesterday were as follows:

Singles: Mackie, beat Williams 6-2, 6-1.

Doubles: Thomson and Cooke beat Rawlings and Smart 6-2, 6-7.

Agafuroff and Pakenham-Walsh beat McPherson and Black 6-4, 6-3.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Smith/Mrs Edwards v Smart/Mrs Scholes.

Mackie/Mrs Philip v Rawlings/Mrs Kite.

Weidon v Thomson.

Hutton Doubtful For Second Test

Wellington, Mar. 21. Len Hutton, England's captain, must be regarded as doubtful for the second Test against New Zealand beginning at Auckland on Friday.

He is suffering with a head cold, locked ill while watching the MCC against Wellington here today and retired early to bed. —China Mail Special.

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Russians Will Leave No Stone Unturned On The Olympic Road

By SIDNEY WEILAND

A giant "Spartakiad"—national sports meeting—in Moscow in the summer of 1956, with the cream of Russia's athletes competing, will climax the Soviets' intensive search for a team to carry the Red banner to the Melbourne Olympic Games in November that year.

The Spartakiad, planned to be held in a new stadium on the outskirts of the Russian capital, will give the Soviet sports leaders a final opportunity to choose the best from those who have come up through elimination contests held throughout the length and breadth of the vast country.

The Soviet Government Sports Committee, which runs all the forms of sport and physical culture, has decided to wait until August, 1956, when the results of the Spartakiad will be known, before finally deciding on the composition of the team to go to Melbourne.

"We are giving great attention to youth," Mikhail Pesiak, Deputy Chairman of the Government Sports Committee and Vice-President of the Soviet Olympics Committee, said. "It is a mistake to concentrate on only one group. It is essential to look around."

"FAN-SOVIET" He likened the 1956 Soviet Spartakiad to the Pan-American or British Empire and Commonwealth Games, except that it concerned only one country.

The Soviet programme of preparation of the Olympics is based on lowering the age of possible competitors and on raising training standards.

The 1955 summer sports season, which would normally end in October, might be extended to November or December.

CHINA MAIL

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(AFTERNOONS)

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Residential Property amidst magni-
ficent scenery. Grounds with beau-
tiful natural gardens, masses of daf-
fodils, primroses and bluebells;
river and woodland walks, 3 re-
c. rm., garden room, exit, Domes-
tic office, staff rm., 3 bed and
dressing rm., 2 bathrooms, 2 staff
bedrooms, electricity, projection
television, complete central heating.
Secondary residence with 3 bed-
rooms, 2 re. rooms, electricity, gar-
age, stabling, paddocks and mod-
ern poultry farm with deep litter
houses for 1,200 hens. In all 17 1/2
acres, 210,000 sq. ft. with immediate
vacant possession of the whole. Box
S, c/o W. H. Smith & Son, Hill
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DR. SCHOLLS' Foot Comfort Ser-
vice, Telephone House (Mezzanine)
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tion your feet deserve. — by London
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commended by British family, leav-
ing the Colony. Excellent cook with
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and trustworthy. Mid-level or
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NEWLY ARRIVED—World famous
"Kodály" of "Serenade" grand
model. "Baroque" Robinson. Musically
grand 2 1/2" (the smallest grand in
the world), all with wonderful tone.
Fully guaranteed. Prices reasonable.
Inspection welcome. Mid-level or
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1. Box 106, "China Mail".

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STAMP ALBUMS — "Collection
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Morning Star and Salisbury Road, Kow-
loon.

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crease your weight ten,
twenty, thirty pounds or
more? At last the way has
been found. Write for free
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Shillings) on building new
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(T-CM) Delhi-9, India.

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Moscow Comedy Lagged Behind Party Line

Moscow, Mar. 21.
The Moscow Operetta Theatre has been
bitterly attacked for a musical comedy entitled
"The Violet of Montmartre," which raised lots of
laugh but lagged far behind the Communist party
line.

In spite of its condemnation, by Soviet Music,
the official organ of the Union of Soviet composers,
The Violet of Montmartre was an outstanding
success. The producer and stars were showered
with bouquets on the first night, and the number of
curtain calls was a record for this type of
performance. The audience loved it.

In the Soviet Union, however,
it is not enough to make people
laugh. There must be an
ideological moral as well.

SOCIAL CONFLICTS

Soviet Music said that the
Operetta Theatre had failed
"to display and to sharpen
the social conflicts" of The
Violet of Montmartre. A
rollicking slapstick farce.

The Violet of Montmartre is a
traditional musical comedy with
music by the Hungarian com-
poser, Imre Kalman, about the
life of some impoverished
Bohemian artists living in the
Paris quarter of Montmartre.
The comedy offended against
Communist ideology because the
artists were poor yet happy.

According to Soviet Music, the
directors of the Moscow Theatre
failed to emphasise the social
inequality of the artists.
Moreover, it said, changes in
the libretto by the Moscow
Theatre did not alter the fact
that the jokes in the comedy
were aimed only "at the un-
fashionable taste of the
loving bourgeoisie."

The like of these Bohemians
in Paris was "depicted falsely
and sentimentally." All
elements of "social conflict"

NOTICE

VEHICULAR FERRY

Owing to repairs to Piers,
the Vehicular Ferry Service
will be suspended as
follows:—

Thursday Evening
the 17th March, 1955

The Service will be
suspended from 9.00 p.m. to
1.00 a.m.

Friday Morning
the 18th March, 1955

The first ferry will com-
mence at 7.20 a.m. instead of
6.20 a.m.

Tuesday Evening
the 22nd March, 1955

The Service will be
suspended from 7.00 p.m. to
1.00 a.m.

Wednesday Morning
the 23rd March, 1955

The first ferry will com-
mence at 7.20 a.m. instead of
6.20 a.m.

Tuesday Evening
the 29th March, 1955

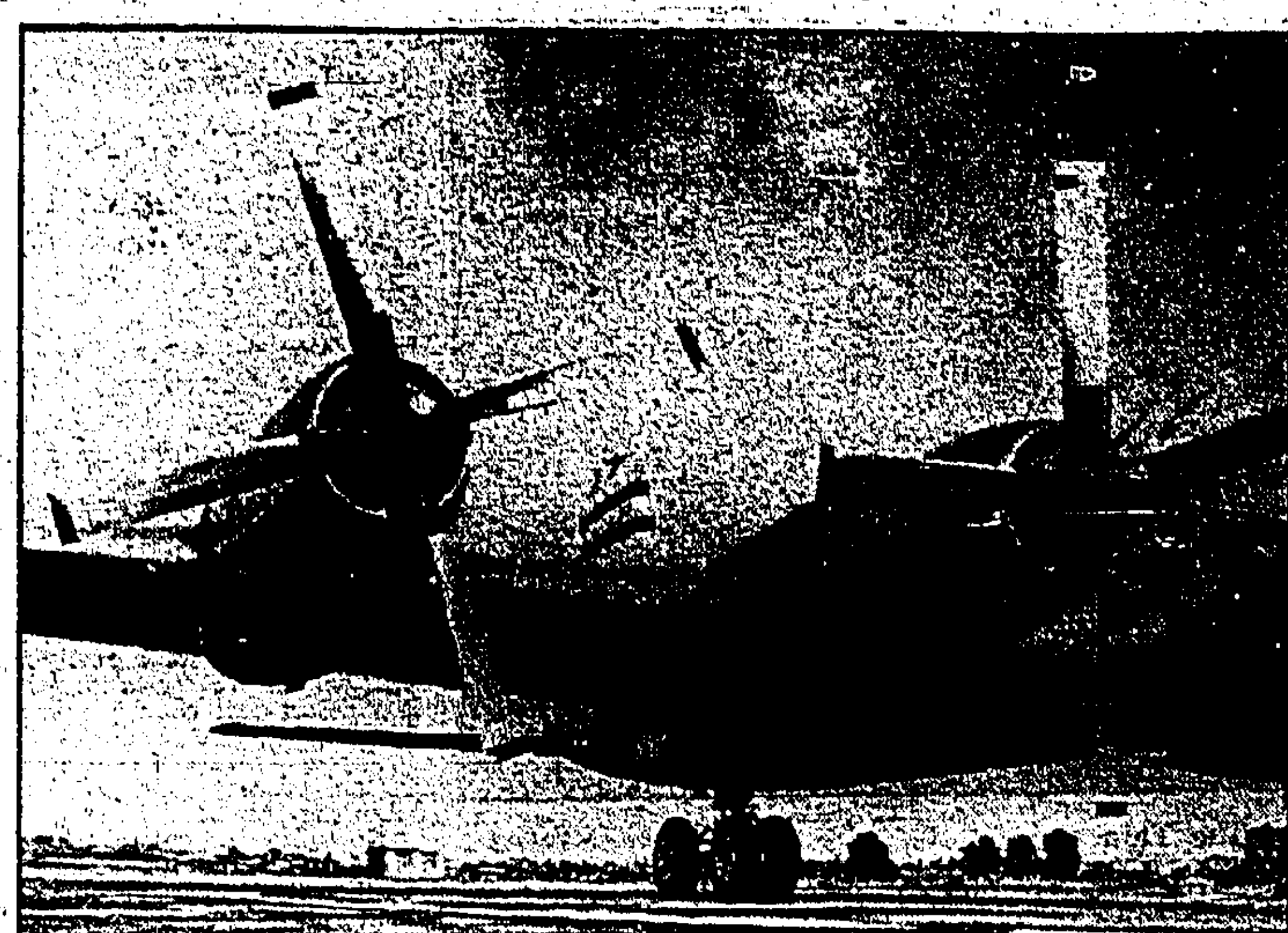
The last ferry will leave at
12.00 Midnight instead of
1.00 a.m.

During the above-mentioned
suspension Passenger Ferries
will be operated as usual.

THE HONG KONG &
YAU MATI FERRY
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Hongkong, 9th March, 1955.

Clean Installation Of 705 Engines



A close-up showing the
clean installation of the
Protus 705 turboprop engines
in the prototype Britannia.

Coalition Threatened

Rome, Mar. 21.
Italy's small but crucial
Republican Party threatened
the safety of Premier Mario
Scelba's coalition today
on the eve of Signor Scelba's
State visit to the United
States.

The Republicans, who have
thrown their five votes in
Parliament to Premier Scelba's
support so far, in effect voted
"no confidence" in his coalition
last night at a meeting of the
Party's National Council.

The Republicans were mem-
bers of the late Premier Alcide
de Gasperi's coalition but have
nobody in the present Cabinet,
which includes Christian De-
mocrats, Social Democrats and
Liberals. But their five votes
carry near-decisive weight.
—United Press.

Putting Noise Into Strike

Colombo, Mar. 21.

A police search was started
on the outskirts of Colombo to-
day for a gang believed to be
making bombs and hand
grenades for terrorism in con-
nection with a local bus strike.
Twenty-three home-made fuse-
bombs were seized in Ottawa,
10 miles east of Colombo.

One former serviceman was
arrested on suspicion of partici-
pation in a series of recent bomb
attacks on buses. The transport
strike is in its eleventh day with
no prospects in sight for settle-
ment. —United Press.

BRITANNIA'S FAST TIME TO THE CAPE

RAF Accident Rate Less Than Quarter Of 1921

One of the fastest times ever
recorded between England and Johannes-
burg by a civil airliner was achieved by a
production Bristol Britannia turbo-prop
plane on March 13.

The journey of over 6,000 miles,
was flown with only one stop at
Khartoum for refueling. The actual
flying time was 17 hours 24 minutes, and
the total time taken allowing for the
stop, was 18 hours 52 minutes.

The Britannia took off at its
maximum all-up weight of
150,000 lb., piloted by Wing
Commander W. Gibb, assistant
chief test pilot at the Bristol
Aeroplane Company. The
passengers and crew totalled 42
including representatives of the
British Overseas Airways Cor-
poration and the Air Registra-
tion Board.

In the House of Commons on the air
accidents, the all-important
subject of safety was almost
overlooked. But Mr George
Ward, the Under-Secretary of
State for Air, delighted MPs
when he told them that the
fatal accident rate for all types
of RAF aircraft is now less
than one-quarter of the 1921
figure. "The comparison is all
the more striking," he said,
"because nowadays our pilots
must be prepared to fly and fight
in all weathers."

TROPICAL TRIALS

The purpose of the
voyage is to complete the
Britannia's tropical trials,
which are expected to take
five weeks. When the proto-
type aircraft flew to Libya
last year for preliminary hot
weather tests, it averaged
a true air speed of 312 mph.
Tests were then carried out
at temperatures in the
nineties, about double those
prevailing during tests in
the U.K.

The speedy flight to Johan-
nesburg gives an indication of
the performance that Britannias
will make possible on long-
range scheduled services. It
demonstrates the ability of the
turboprop to carry a large pay-
load over very long ranges, at
high cruising speeds. The
average speed on the Johan-
nesburg flight was 350 mph.

Mr Ward also told the House
that the fatal accident rate for
jets is less than one-sixth of
the rate when they first came
into service, and less than half
what it was only two years ago.
These results stem from a care-
ful training programme and
great improvements in the
reliability of aircraft and
engines during the past three
decades.

A two-seater trainer version
of the Hawker Hunter transonic
fighter is being developed
which may eventually come
into service with Flying Train-
ing Command. The Hunting-
Perch Jet Preceptor basic
trainer is at present being
exhaustively tested and before
long an experimental all-jet
pilot training scheme will begin
using this promising aircraft.
Pilots will then complete their
training without ever having
down behind a propeller.

M. E. REPAIR PRESENTS

Recently two English
Electric Canberra bomber
squadrons reinforced Cyprus
from Britain in six hours
flying time. Last month a
Canberra flew from Linton-
hall, to Nicosia in Cyprus,
a journey of 2,000 miles, in
four hours, thirteen
minutes.

Canberras are already making
hundreds of flights annually to
overseas bases in all parts of
the world, lending powerful support
to British air power wherever
they are needed.

Last year Great Britain
shipped overseas a record
number of aero-engines of all
types, worth more than
£20,800,000. This impressive
total included jet-engines, turbo-
props, and radial engines.

It spotlights a minor but
fascinating problem affecting radial
engines—how to get the engine
out of the packing case in which
it was shipped.

Radial aircraft engines are
usually packed with the pro-
peller shaft in the vertical
position.

When the engine has to be
fitted to the plane on arrival at
its destination, it must be lifted
and turned through ninety de-
grees. This usually involves the
use of two slings and lifting
tackles, and the loss of a good
deal of time and effort.

Now a new piece of equip-
ment has been designed in
Canada which makes engine
handling relatively look like
simplicity itself.

Called the Scoba engine
lifting sling, it makes it
possible for one man using
a lifting tackle to hoist
an engine and turn it into
horizontal position in the
space of a few minutes.

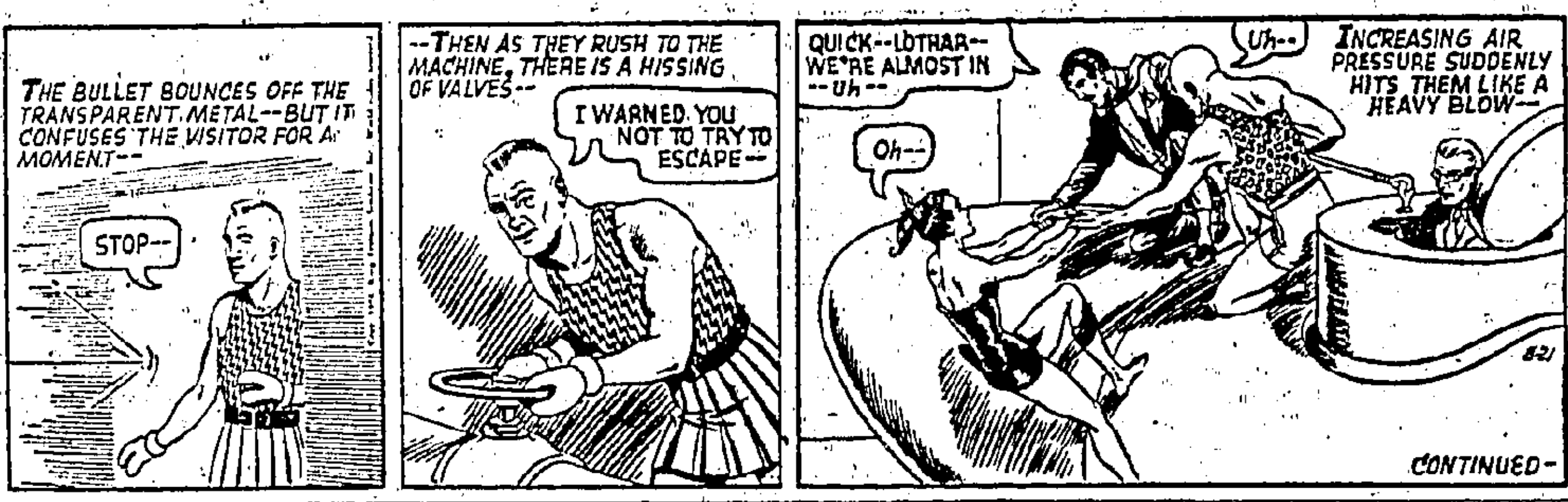
The sling not only simplifies a
tricky operation but also effects
a considerable saving in handling
time.

London, Mar. 21.
The Chief Justice, Lord God-
dard, today ordered the extradi-
tion of a Ceylon businessman
to Belgium to face criminal
charges involving £220,000.

Emily Samdunayagam was
accused of obtaining the sum
from an Antwerp bank in March,
1954, with forged documents
against a shipment of rice, be-
lieved to have been for the Por-
tuguese Government for its
colony in India, Goa. The rice
was not shipped and the defend-
ent was accused of having forged
documents. —United Press.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



THE BULLET BOUNCES OFF THE
TRANSPARENT METAL—BUT IT
CONFUSES THE VISITOR FOR A
MOMENT—

—THEN AS THEY RUSH TO THE
MACHINE, THERE IS A HISsing
OF VALVES—

I WARNED YOU
NOT TO TRY TO
ESCAPE—

Oh—

QUICK—LITHAR-
WE'RE ALMOST IN—

Oh—

INCREASING AIR
PRESSURE SUDDENLY
HITS THEM LIKE A
HEAVY BLOW—

Oh—

CONTINUED—

FERD'NAND

By Mik



THE JAM THAT MADE
TASMANIA FAMOUS

By Ernie Bushmiller

NANCY --- WHAT
ARE YOU DOING?

I'M
PRACTICING

IRMA IS GOING
TO SERVE
THREE-DECKER
SANDWICHES
AT HER
PARTY

By Frank Robbins

AS JOHNNY WAITS IN
THE CASBAR CAFE...

PARDON, M'SIEU...
THAT IS AN ADMIRABLE
PARAKEET YOU HAVE!
IS HE FOR SALE?

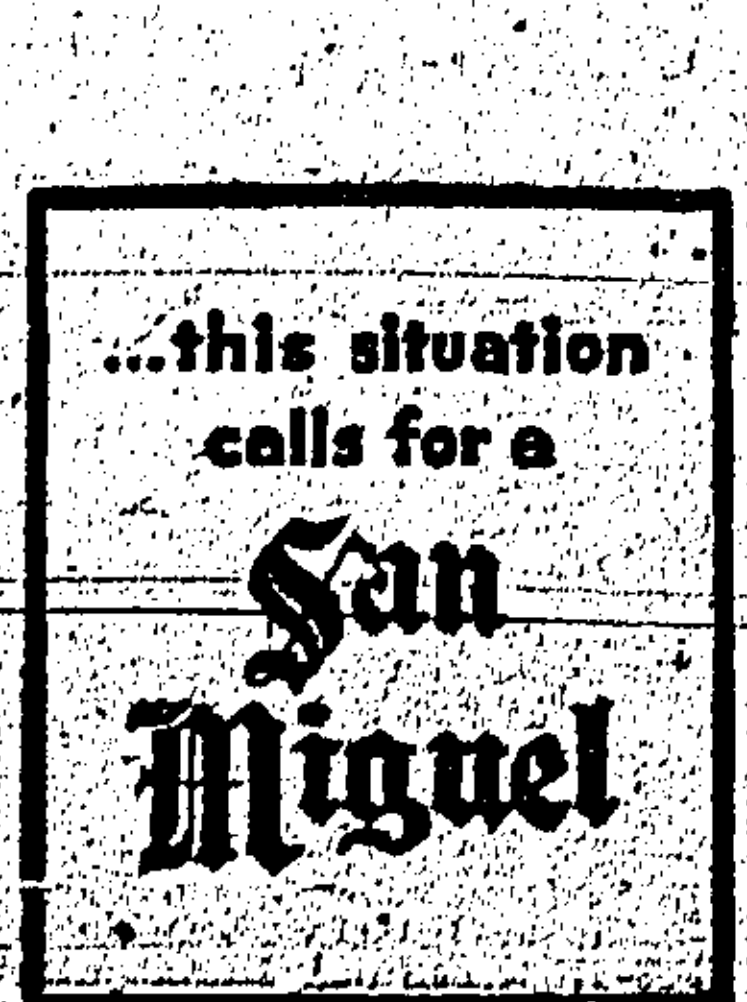
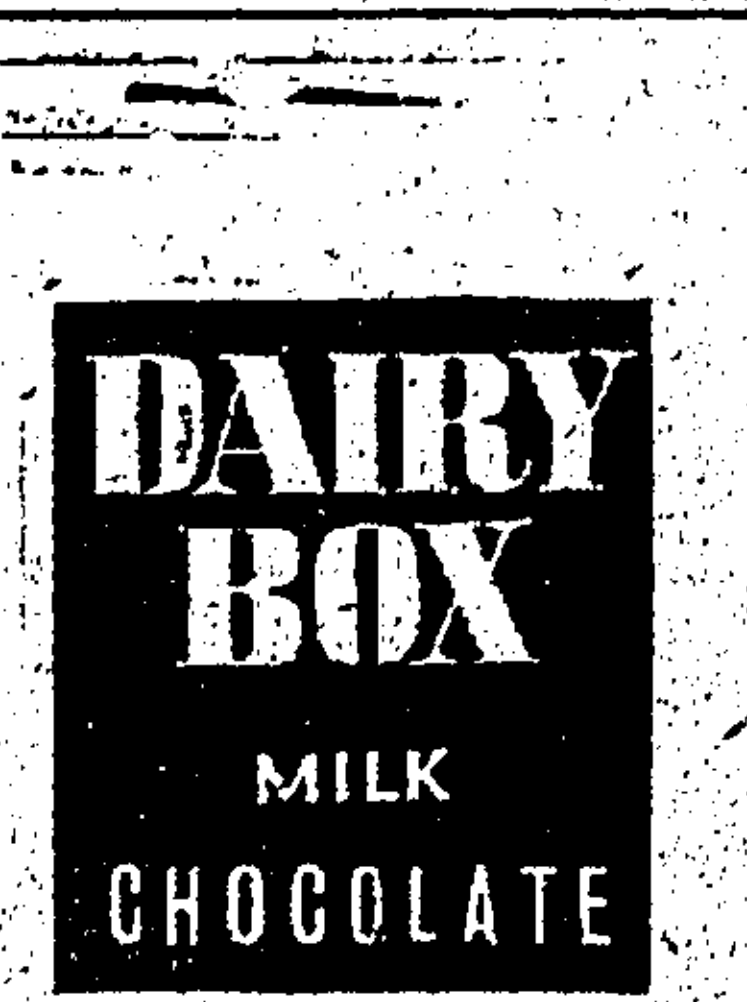
SORRY, NOT AT ANY
PRICE! HE BELONGS
TO SOMEBODY ELSE...
AND I AM TO DELIVER
HIM PERSONALLY!

AH, GOOD! PERHAPS
I CAN BE OF SOME
SMALL ASSISTANCE IN
HELPING YOU DELIVER
THE BIRD.

NO, THANKS! LOOK,
WHY DON'T YOU GET
LOST AND LEAVE ME
ALONE?

A MOST EXCELLENT
SUGGESTION, M'SIEU!
COME... LET US BOTH
GET LOST!

PART TWO OF
PLAN B... LOOKS
LIKE I'VE MADE
CONTACT!



SOVIET MINISTER DISMISSED

The eruption sent a wave of lava down a slope toward the sea. By nightfall, the lava had moved three miles through tropical jungle, across a grassy plain and was less than a mile from the sea—United Press.